

A
CONGRATVLATION
TO
FRANCE,
VPON THE HAPPY ALLIANCE
WITH SPAINE.
Dedicated to the Queene.

With the order and challenge of the Knights
of Fame, to their opposites.



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To the Queene.

MADAME.



Rance hath not without cause
had recourse to your Maiesty
as to her sole remedy, and now
Spaine intreats you to adorne
her Crowne with our Flower
de Lucas, for it seemeth that Heauen hath
made you the gardian of peace, and placed
you in this world as the true Queene vnto
whome hee hath appointed the totall gouern-
ment thereof; shewing vs there by, that his plea-
sure is, that as one MARY brought peace
into the world, so your Maiesty should distri-
bute it to vs. For this cause Madame, your

To the Queene.

Miesty may be pleased to giue me leave to pro-
clame the glories thereof, and sing them on the
Theater of my labours, that the whole world
may be acquainted with our happinesse.
My selfe being your Miesties

Most humble and obedient
subiect and seruant.

F. de Menantel. S. Denis.



A Congratulation to France
on the happy alliance
with Spaine.



I is not without cause, that
those Monarchies are held
happy, whose affections
Heauen hath vnited: be-
cause in the renewing of
Kings, God rewardeth his people accor-
ding to the merit of their liues: for if I for-
get not, I haue read of *Dionysius* the tirant,
Heliogabalus, and *Nero*, who imployed
their power and authority cruelly, and to
the hurt of their people, which is an eui-
dent

dent signe, that God had forsaken them,
 by giuing them such cruell Princes. Our
 France is free from those miseries, and
 without blushing may terme it selfe ex-
 traordinarily happy, by hauing for a long
 time Kings sacred and chosen by that
 great God, who calls them his eldest and
 most Christian sonnes : a matter which
 may stire vs vp to giue him thanks, and
 to intreat him to continue this fauour, that
 wee may nourish our glory vnder the
 wings of his almighty power. Doe we not
 owe him this acknowledgment, for taking
 such speciall care of our peace? Let vs con-
 sider the greatnesse of the present benifit
 hee hath bestowed vpon vs, hauing gi-
 uen vs a Queene, who is the pearle of the
 world, the ornament of Heauen, the *epi-*
tome of all vertues : For this, we ought to
 redouble our praiers, and seeke hereafter
 better to please him, I meane by changing
 our

our old conditions, and framing them a new in the model of his holy commandments: the which we may easily doe, our mindes being freed from the rage of ambition which possesse vs when Spaine was an enemy to our France: and now I doe assure my selfe our good *Genius* wil be auspicious, so long as hir Maiesty shall remaine among vs. What is there more to be admired then our present gouernment? who would euer haue thought that vpon the euen of warre, losing our great *Henry*, we should haue enioyed such tranquillity? verily it is the worke of Heauen, and we must of necessity so beleue it, vnlesse we thinke it to bee our great *Henries* fame, which peraduenture hath left an immortal terror behind him to awe other Kings, who being still amazed at the report of his vallour, haue not dared to make any attempt vpon his lawfull heire, vnto whom

B

they

they feare he hath bequeathed his courage
 as well as greatnesse: The which we shall
 vndoubtedly finde to be true by those liue-
 ly signes which may be discerned in him.
 Ohappy day when her Maiesty was cho-
 sen Regent. Blessed of God are you my
 Lords who gaue your consents; you may
 truly say that the holy Ghost spake in you
 at that time when you comitted the States
 gouernment to her; Thereby you declare
 that you worthily deserue your places, &
 that questionlesse you had a care of the
 publik peace. O let your sacred Maiesties,
 who with a liberall hand giues vs meanes
 to serue your greatnesse, drawing your
 poore France forth of the dangerous pre-
 cipice of warre, making it triumphant on
 the worlds Theater; You I say who with
 your onely lookes braue the greatest pow-
 ers of Europe, preserue and make much
 of your liues, that you may eternize our
 peace

peace, which can last no longer then your
 raigne in the world, where al true French-
 men your humble seruants will beseech
 the diuine Maiefty that it may be so. For
 what greater fauours could wee hope for
 then those we now enioy ? by what other
 way then this could her Maiefty haue pro-
 cured our good ? There is none so simple
 but knowes that Spaine is more then able
 to embroile our peace, and by consequent
 her alliance most profitable for France.
 Her Maiefty and my Lords of the Coun-
 cell, whose vnderstanding pearceth Hea-
 uen, haue maturely disposed of this pro-
 position, and can make no appeale from
 this resolution, beeing the onely meanes
 to try our forces against the Turke and to
 reconquer that which our vnbrideled am-
 bition lost: do we not suppose but that this
 consideration did reunite the wandering
 affections of our Kings, who wearied with

ciuill dissention haue resolued vpon this
 deseigne: for when did you euer read that
 ciuill warre reigned so long among the
 Turkes, as it hath done in Christendome.
 Our Kings are children of a spirituall fa-
 ther; belceue in him, liue vnder his law:
 what reason then haue wee to seeke and
 desire the ruyne, of our bretheren. Let vs
 imploy our courage in making warre vpon
 that tyrant, a sworne enemy to our reli-
 gion, and not make our neighbours bow-
 ells scabbards for our swords; this will
 more renowe vs, and our death will bee
 more glorious before God: the way is tra-
 ced before vs, and an occasion offered by
 the contracted marriages of our king with
 the Infanta of Spaine, and is doubly con-
 firmed by that of the Princesse of France,
 with the Prince of Spaine: all excuses are
 vaine. O Lord thou art mighty, thy good-
 nesse is incomprehensible and men can
 not

not found the depth of thy iudgements:
 wher is that dead *Chaos* which we thought
 to haue beheld? wher are those preparati-
 ons which our *Mars* had leuied in France
 to glut our ambiriō? O thou great God hast
 thou caused a second *MART* to be borne
 in the East? Hast thou ordained her from
 her birth to preuent our miseries? I verily
 thinke it, seeing that by her alone thou
 hast freed vs from our long troubles: Fi-
 nish O good God, finish this worke, least
 some wandring fire fall into the trenches
 of our peace, and blow vp the myne of
 our hope, which if it should happen wee
 were then at the pitts brinke of our for-
 mer miseries: yet I doe not imagin that
 her Maiesty and our Princes would be so
 merry and ioyfull as to proclaime tri-
 umphes, if they were not assured of our
 peace, and that thou hadest possesst them
 with a desire to effect it. This O Lord

we heartily beseech thee to graunt, and
 we yeeld vnto thee the same thanks
 which thy deere seruant *David* did after
 that hee had vanquished his ene-
 mies, and was peaceably
 seated in his King-
 dome.

THE



THE KNIGHTS OF
Fames Challenge to all those that
will oppose themselves
against them.



UNDERSTAN-
ding by the Oracles
that the French *Her-*
cules after his trauailes
had builded the Pallace of Felici-
ty, and that the Destinies had re-
serued the first entrance into it
for vs , and the prooffe of those
which

which deserue the second, to our Lances, we are come thither vpon the report of the Marriages of the greatest Kings of Europe, to procure witnesses of our victory, and to shew our selues Knights worthy of imitation. For without loosing the title of Inuincible, which our deeds haue purchased, we will keepe and defend that Pallace against all men, and maintaine

That the beauty which wee reuerence is without compare, and her actions blamelesse.

That they are so good as they can not be bettered.

That

That we alone deserue to publish hir glory and that none ought to aspire to ours.

Neuerthelesse the fame of the assaillants shall not be small, hauing such authors of their defeat be it that they come to vs as wearied with liuing in the world, or else desirous to haue vs end their daies, seeing that the honor to fight with vs is greater, then that of vanquishing all other men.

VVe *Almidor, Leontides, Alpheus, Lisander, Arganto*, will mayntaine this challenge in the
C place

place royall of Paris on the twenty five day of the Month of *MARS*, who inspire vs.



THE DECREES OF
the Lists, and order of the courses
at the Quintyn.



THE Defendants shal enter first into the place, and none after them but those that haue charge of the triumphes, assaillants, or traine.

2. The assaillants shall enter
with visards, liveries, shields,
names, armes of their houses, and
impreses.

3. They shall enter the lists at
one of the clocke after dinner, if
they meane to runne, and shall
cause a certaine number of tor-
ches to be brought thither.

4. They cannot enter the lists
without the leaue of the Iudges
of the field.

5. They shal runne according
to the order as they entred, and
each of them onely with two
lances.

ances.

6. He That breakes his lance from the chinne of the Quintin to the eyes, wins one course, from thence vpward, two; in the small shield, three; in any other part nothing.

7. The lance shall not bee accounted broken vnles the staffe fall in two peeces.

8. Who loseth his lance, sword plume, bridle, spur, or stirrop, loseth the course, and if he breakes not, wins nothing.

9. Who loseth his saddle, or hits
the

the great shield is to be thrust forth of the lists.

10. He that falls from his horse incurs the like penalty.

11. The value of the reward is at the choyse of the assaillants.

12. At their retorne from the lists, al of them shal keepe the same order as they did at their entrance. The rest is refered to the Iudges.

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FINIS.